

REMARKS

Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required under 35 U.S.C.

§121:.

- I. Claims 1-5 and 9, drawn to products of formula (I), classified in various subclasses of classes 514, 544, 546 and 548.
- II. Claim 7 drawn to process a) for preparing the compounds of formula I, classified in various subclasses of class 544, 546 and 548.
- III. Claim 7 drawn to process b) for preparing the compounds of formula I, classified in various subclasses of class 544, 546 and 548.
- IV. Claim 7 drawn to process c) for preparing the compounds of formula I, classified in various subclasses of class 544, 546 and 548.
- V. Claim 10 drawn to combinations of inhibitors of PKC and T-cell activation and proliferation along with a second agent, classified in various subclasses of 514.
- VI. Claim 11 drawn to methods for treating disorders mediated by T lymphocytes and/or PKC with the compound of formula I, classified in various subclasses of class 514.

Applicant's elect Group I, Claims 1-5 and 9, without traverse.

An election of a single compound is further required. In response thereto,

Applicants elect the compound of Example 1, i.e., the compound of formula (I), wherein R_a is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, or C_{1-4} alkyl substituted by OH, NH_2 , NH_{1-4} alkyl, $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$; R_b is H or C_{1-4} alkyl; R is a radical of the formula (a); R_1 is OH, SH or a heterocyclic residue; R_2 is H, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3 , OH, SH, NH_2 , C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, $NHC_{1-4}alkyl$, $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ or CN; R_3 is halogen, $C_{1-4}alkyl$, CF_3 , OH, SH, NH_2 , C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, $NHC_{1-4}alkyl$, $N(di-C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ or CN; ring A is optionally substituted.

To the extent that this election of species is to facilitate the Examiner's search, this election is made without traverse. To the extent that this election to a single compound (species) is considered another restriction requirement, Applicant's traverse this election. The election of a single species should be a provisional requirement. As stated in MPEP 803.02:

" . . . the examiner may require a provisional election of a single species prior to examination on the merits. The provisional election will be given effect in the event that the Markush-type claim should be found not allowable. Following election, the Markush-type claim will be examined fully with respect to the elected species and further to the extent necessary to determine patentability."

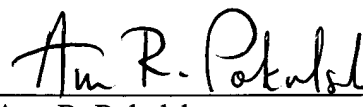
Therefore, if the provisionally elected species is found allowable, then the generic Markush-type claim (Claim 1) must be examined fully.

Included herewith is a petition for a two-month extension of time and authorization to charge the required fee to an appropriate deposit account. The time for response is now set to expire on July 31, 2005, which date falls on a Sunday.

This paper is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. Applicants submit that the specification and claims are in proper form and that the elected invention is patentable over the prior art.

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430/2
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Respectfully submitted,


Ann R. Pokalsky
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,697